

wherein X is C(O)R₁ or H, and R₁ is a saturated C₂-C₁₈ carbon hydrogen residue and R₂ is a saturated or unsaturated C₂-C₁₈ carbon hydrogen residue.

16. (Added) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12, wherein the D- or L-tryptophanyl-ester or its N-acyl derivative is selected from the group consisting of tryptophanoctyl-ester, tryptophandodecyl-ester, tryptophanstearyl-ester, tryptophanpalmityl-ester, tryptophanoleyl-ester, N-acetyl-tryptophanoctyl-ester, N-acetyl-tryptophandodecyl-ester, N-acetyl-tryptophanstearyl-ester, N-acetyl-tryptophanpalmityl-ester, N-acetyl-tryptophanoleyl-ester, N-dodecanoyl-tryptophanoctyl-ester, N-dodecanoyl-tryptophandodecyl-ester, N-dodecanoyl-tryptophanstearyl-ester, N-dodecanoyl-tryptophanpalmityl-ester, N-dodecanoyl-tryptophanoleyl-ester, N-acetyl-tryptophanethyl-ester, N-hexoyl-tryptophanethyl-ester, N-octoyl-tryptophanethyl-ester, N-dodecanoyl-tryptophanethyl-ester, N-stearoyl-tryptophanethyl-ester, N-palmitoyl-tryptophanethyl-ester and N-oleoyl-tryptophanethyl-ester.

17. (Added) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12, wherein the D- or L-tryptophanethyl-ester or its N-acetyl derivative is selected from the group consisting of tryptophanoctyl-ester, N-oleoyl-tryptophanethyl-ester and N-dodecanoyl-tryptophanethyl-ester.

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the specification to make reference to a priority claim to International Application No. PCT/EP99/06819, filed on September 15, 1999.

Applicants have canceled claim 13 without prejudice and added claims 14-17.

Support for claim 14 may be found, *inter alia*, on page 6, lines 4-10. Support for claims 15-17

may be found, *inter alia*, in claim 12 as originally filed. Applicants have amended claims 1-12 to improve their form. Specifically, applicants have amended the format of claims 1-11 to recite "a method for treating or preventing a disease" instead of a "use" of the compounds in this invention. Applicants have also amended claims 2-12 to add dependency from added claim 14. Applicants have amended claim 12 to recite the article "A" before the first word in the claim. A marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached hereto as Appendix A.

Claims 1-12 and 14-17 are now pending. None of the amendments add new matter.

Entry of the amendments is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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